

I. AMENDMENT**Amendment of the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

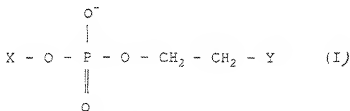
1. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment or prevention of C-reactive protein (CRP)-mediated tissue damage, the method comprising administering to a subject ~~in need thereof~~ suffering from myocardial infarction or stroke an effective amount of a compound capable of inhibiting the binding of CRP to ~~an autologous or extrinsic~~ a ligand thereof;

wherein the compound comprises phosphocholine or a derivative thereof and binds to the calcium-dependent ligand binding site of CRP so as to interfere with binding of CRP to the ~~autologous or extrinsic~~ ligand thereof; and

wherein the tissue damage ~~is associated with a condition selected from the group consisting of an infection, an allergic complication of infection, an inflammatory disease, ischemic or other necrosis, traumatic tissue damage and malignant neoplasia results from myocardial infarction or stroke occurring as a complication of atherosclerosis in the subject.~~

2-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) ~~A method for the treatment or prevention of CRP mediated tissue damage, the~~ The method of claim 1, comprising administering to a ~~the~~ subject ~~in need thereof~~ an effective amount of a compound of general formula (I) which inhibits the binding of CRP to a ligand thereof:



wherein X is H or an organic substituent group, and Y is N substituted to form ammonium; ~~and~~

~~wherein the tissue damage is associated with a condition selected from the group consisting of an infection, an allergic complication of infection, an inflammatory disease, ischemic or other necrosis, traumatic tissue damage and malignant neoplasia.~~

11. (Original) A method according to claim 10, wherein X is H or C₁ to C₂₀ alkyl.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11, wherein X is C₁₂ to C₂₀ alkyl.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 10, wherein Y is N-R₃, in which each R is independently selected from C₁ to C₅ alkyl.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 13, wherein each R is CH₃.

15. (Currently amended) ~~A method for the treatment or prevention of CRP-mediated tissue damage, the~~ The method of claim 1, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound comprising hexadecylphosphocholine;

~~wherein the tissue damage is associated with a condition selected from the group consisting of an infection, an allergic complication of infection, an inflammatory disease, ischemic or other necrosis, traumatic tissue damage and malignant neoplasia.~~

16-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) A method according to any one of claims 1, 10, or 15, ~~47 or 48~~, wherein the subject is a human subject.

20-48. (Canceled)

49. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~condition~~
~~comprises a~~ tissue damage results from stroke.

50. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein the ~~condition~~
~~comprises a~~ tissue damage results from stroke.

51-56. (Canceled)

57. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the tissue damage results from myocardial infarction.

58. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein the tissue damage results from myocardial infarction.